M/053/005

Tenneco Minerals A Tenneco Company



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September 9, 1992

Utah Department of Natural Resources Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining 355 West North Temple 3 Triad Center, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Attention: Wayne Hedberg

Reference: Wildlife Impact Summary - August 1992

Dear Mr. Hedberg:

We have one wildlife mortality to report during the month of August. On August 25, 1992, a grey squirrel was found in the collection reservoir of the sump on leach pad #1.

Leach pad #1 is in a drain down state in preparation for decontamination. The sump box had been replaced with a re-designed box, which contains a collection/pumping reservoir, just days prior to the incident. The HDPE plastic liner was removed from the immediate sump area during the changes enabling bare ground access to the sump. The squirrel apparently fell in the sump and drowned in water standing in the box.

The water in the box came from leach pad #1 which is discharging 2-3 gpm of solution containing less than 1 ppm cyanide. This cyanide level is low enough that we feel mortality from cyanide is improbable.

We were pumping the water from above a check dam in the solution ditch into the sump at the time. The following day, the HDPE liner was repaired as scheduled during lining of our new rinse water pond.

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DIVISION OF OIL GAS & MINING Tenneco Minerals WAYNE HEDBERG, DOGM DATE: 09/09/92 WILDLIFE IMPACT SUMMARY - AUGUST 1992 PAGE TWO Because of the steepness of the perimeter berm and the slickness of the plastic, we feel the repairs to the liner will prevent an occurrence of similar incidents. Also, the area has had no prior problems and this loss occurred during construction. Sincerely, TENNECO MINERALS COMPANY Rolf K Wil Robert K. Wilson Environmental Coordinator RKW: bas